BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF740

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR);

Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 51 assessment webinar IV for Gulf of Mexico gray

snapper.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 51 assessment process of Gulf of Mexico gray snapper will

consist of a Data Workshop, a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop.

DATES: The SEDAR 51 assessment webinar IV will be held October 30, 2017 from 1

p.m. - 3 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to

members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at

SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation

providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24

hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571-4366; email: *Julie.neer@safmc.net*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment webinars, and (3) A Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, HMS Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the assessment webinar IV are as follows:

1. Using datasets and initial assessment analysis recommended from the Data

Workshop, panelists will employ assessment models to evaluate stock status,

estimate population benchmarks and management criteria, and project future

conditions.

2. Participants will recommend the most appropriate methods and configurations for

determining stock status and estimating population parameters.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this

group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this

meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and

any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under

section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act,

provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the

emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign

language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office

(see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each workshop.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: October 5, 2017.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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Acting Deputy Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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